(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have taken a decision to grant assistance from NRF for the year 1993-94 only to the Central Government undertakings;

(d) what are the reasons for this partial attitude of Government; and

(e) whether Government are thinking to provide assistance as requested by Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) In the first instance, assistance from National Renewal Fund has been provided for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme of Central Public Sector Undertakings including those in Gujarat.

Proposals for assistance from the National Renewal Fund have been received from Gujarat and other States. These will be processed and decided upon by the Empowered Authority on receipt of appropriate budget allocations.

Revival of potteries Ltd.

1464. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up any plan for revival of Bengal Potteries Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the decisions of Government about the future of the Unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) has undertaken a viability study of M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd. The Government of West Bengal has been asked to identify a suitable entrepreneur who is willing to run the unit and capable of bringing in requisite promoter's contribution necessary for its revival. IRBI has also issued advertisements to attract suitable entrepreneurs.

Facilities for Small Scale sector

1465. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that lack of marketing and advertisement facilities are the two main causes for failure of Small Scale Industries as a whole;

(b) the steps Government propose to take provide guaranteed markets to Small Scale Industries; and

(c) the nature of subsidies being provided to Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Marketing being an entrepreneurial function in a free market economy, guaranteed market can not be provided by the Government. Nevertheless the marketing support is being extended to SSI units through various measures such as Reservation of items for exclusive purchase from SSI sector, Single Point Registration Scheme, Sales through marketing outlets by various marketing organisations of Central and State Govts. The management Consultancy on Marketing is being provided to SSI units through Management Development Programmes.

No Government subsidies are provided to small scale industries for marketing purposes. However, the industries certified as Small Scale Industries by Central or State Governments, who advertise through Akashvani or Doordarshan direct, are eligible for a concession of 15 per cent in the prescribed rates. Transport subsidy is provided to small scale industries located in North-Eastern Region and in certain specified hilly and remote areas on transport costs incurred on movement of raw materials from, and finished goods to, the designated rail heads/ports. Different State Govts. also provided various subsidies and concessions such as Capital subsidy, power subsidy, sales tax exemption/deferment, interest subsidy etc. to units located in backward areas.

BHEL taking up oil exploration

1466. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BHEL is likely to take up oil exploration in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Quality of toilet soaps

1467. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the toilets soaps in the market do not even meet the Grade-3 standard, the lowest on the quality scale;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Bun of Indian Standards Technical Committee on Soaps and Other Surface Active Agents has formulated IS 2888; 1983 Specification for toilet soaps (second revision) with two amendments. This standard prescribed 3, grades of toilet soaps with total fatty matter (TFM) content of 76.0, 70.0 and 60.0 per cent by mass, minimum for grade 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The TFM contenty are normally declared by the manufacturers on the wrappers of toilet soaps. Some toilet soaps marketed in the country are declaring TFM content lower than 60 per cent.

(c) Action has been initiated to include BIS standards of safety and quality for toilet soaps under the Drugs & Cosmatics Rules, 1945.

Revamping foreign investment strategy

1468. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign investment strategy is proposed to be revamped; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE